

Village at Wolf Creek Access Project- Public Comment

Dan Jiron
Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service Region 2
Golden, CO 80401

Dear Mr Jiron,

I have previously submitted written comment during the last public comment period. I am again writing to express my opposition to the proposed access project under consideration for the following reasons:

1. Water quality: Providing access for the future development of residential and commercial facilities has the potential to detrimentally impact the quality of streams and wetlands in the area. Waste disposal also has the potential to affect ground water quality. This could also cause harm to fish and other wildlife.
2. Wildlife: This large scale development with year round residents would result in a loss of habitat for a variety of wildlife including federally endangered species.
3. Visual and Scenic: The proposed development will be seen from both the ski area and US Hwy 160 impacting the scenic views from both these areas.
4. Transportation: Granting the proposed access would increase traffic volume and congestion along US Hwy 160 as well as the entrance to Wolf Creek Ski Area.
5. Soil and Vegetation: Development in this area would directly impact soil quality and increase chances of erosion along with damage to riparian habitat and other vegetation.
6. Climate and Air Quality: Increased air pollution along the pristine continental divide would result from a large scale development of this type.
7. Recreation: Access to this development would, in my opinion, detrimentally impact the recreational experience at Wolf Creek Ski Area, Alberta Park Reservoir, The Continental Divide Trail and Lobo Overlook.

Other comments based on new information, outside the scope of comment.

Wildfire hazard: The extensive beetle kill in this area has the potential for extreme wildfire hazard like we have seen with the West Fork and East Fork fires.

Validity of 1987 land exchange: There have been comments regarding the inappropriate land exchange in 1987. If this is the case, all of the proposed dealing with McCombs should be questioned!

Thank you for your consideration,

Jennifer Martin
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